

ABC News Nightline went to Vietnam and interviewed villagers who witnessed the firefight in February 1969 that led to John Kerry being awarded a Silver Star. The incident is a centerpiece of the allegations made by the so-called 'Swift Boat Veterans for Truth', whose leader John O'Neill has claimed that there was no firefight and that Kerry shot dead a fleeing teenager. Nightline's detailed interviews with the villagers, including former Viet Cong fighters who took part in the incident, verified Kerry's account of events. When confronted by Nightline's Ted Koppel, a clearly rattled O'Neill refused to address the content of the report (Air America web site, 10/19/04).

Although the President said he had nothing to do with the "Swift Boat Veterans for Truth", research by two reporters from the New York Times, Kate Zernike and Jim Rutenberg suggest otherwise. In the August 20 edition of their paper, they say, "A series of interviews and a review of documents show a web of connections to the Bush Family, high-profile Texas political figures and President Bush's chief political aid, Carl Rove."

I just received a flyer brochure in the mail from the "Swift Boat" people and it made me sick to my stomach. The accusations by these activists have been refuted by CBS's Nightline, the Pentagon and the New York Times.

I am getting the impression that this president is incompetent as an administrator or just a plain old country liar.

I urge you not to show the latest Swift film on your station and perpetuate this nonsense.